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Docket No.: SHO-0068
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hiroaki KUKITA et al.

Application No.: 10/809,686

Filed: March 26, 2004

For: CONNECTOR UNIT

Confirmation No.: 7880

Art Unit: 2821

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- ☒ A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Concise Explanation of Relevancy of the Document

- ☒ Any document has been cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or international application, or its related application. A copy of the communication is attached hereto, accompanied by English translation of at least relevant part, if it is not in English.

☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. **No fee is required.** If, however, a first Office Action on the merits is issued, **no fee is required** in view of the statement below (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)).

☒ a. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

☐ b. No item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2). The Certification under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2) is attached hereto.

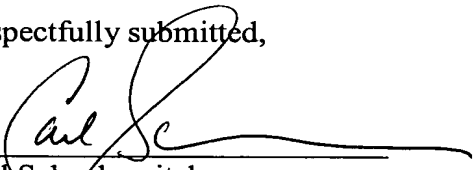
The Patent Office is **NOT AUTHORIZED** to charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(d)(2) and 1.17(p). However, **ONLY IF** a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application has been mailed prior to filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Patent Office is authorized to charge \$180.00 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(d)(2) and 1.17(p) in view of the statement above under 37 CFR §1.97(e). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

☒ 2. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Dated: April 21, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By


Carl Schaukowitch

Registration No.: 29,211

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Attorney for Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/809,686-Conf. #7880
				Filing Date	March 26, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Hiroaki Kukita
				Art Unit	2821
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SHO-0068

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	5,108,300	04/28/1992	Ronald M. WEBER	
	AB	5,741,146	04/21/1998	Randall R. HENRY et al.	
	AC	5,989,046	11/23/1999	Koji TOGASHI	
	AD	6,171,123	01/09/2001	Yao-Hao CHANG	
	AF	6,213,801	04/10/2001	David C. TAYLOE et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	GB 2 263 590 A	07/28/1993	Transradio Limited		
	BB	EP 0 869 584	10/07/1998	Hirose Electric Co., Ltd.		

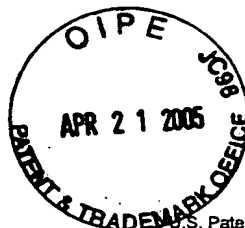
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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	EPO	European Search Report	

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